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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/624,989	07/22/2003	Hideto Yamazaki	501152.20017	8168

7590

04/19/2005

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EXAMINER

FAISON, VERONICA F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1755

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/624,989

Applicant(s)

YAMAZAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Veronica F. Faison

Art Unit

1755

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5,7 and 11-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5 and 7 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Claims 1-3, 5, and 7 have been amended, claims 11-15 have been added and claims 4, 6, 8 and 9 have been canceled. Hence, claims 1-3, 5, 7 and 11-15 are pending in the application. The amendment was persuasive to the extent that the 102(b) rejection over Saibara has been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gotoh et al (US Patent 6,730,155).

Gotoh et al teach an aqueous ink composition comprising at least one pigment, a dispersant, a wetting agent, a penetrating agent and water which may be used for ink jet recording (abstract and col. 5 lines 33+). In the examples 4 and 22, the reference discloses ink composition having 20 percent pigment, 10 percent polyethylene glycol (has an average molecular weight 200), 1 percent sodium benzoate and balance of

Art Unit: 1755

water. The weight ratio of the polyethylene glycol with respect to the pigment appears to be not more than 3 as shown by examples 4 and 22. Applicant discloses on page 8 paragraph 0018 of the specification, that polyethylene glycol which may an molecular weight of 200 to 400 are liquid at ordinary temperature and ordinary pressure. The reference remains silent to whether the water contained in the ink is evaporated and the solid matter is redissolved in the ink which is not solidified would be the same as claimed by applicant because similar compositions with similar amounts would inherently have these properties. The ink composition appears to anticipate the claimed invention.

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Satoh et al (US Patent 6,793,724)

The applied reference has a common inventor with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Satoh et al teaches an ink composition comprising a pigment and a surfactant (abstract and col. 3 line 38+). The reference further teaches that a permeating agent, glycol ether, may be present in the ink composition. The ink composition may also comprise a moistening agent wherein polyethylene glycol is a preferred solvent (col. 4 line 59-col. 5 line 43). Example 2 use ink compositions similar to that taught by

Art Unit: 1755

Applicant, wherein the weight ratio of the polyethylene glycol with respect to the pigment appears to be not more than 3. Applicant discloses on page 8 paragraph 0018 of the specification, that polyethylene glycol which may an molecular weight of 200 to 400 are liquid at ordinary temperature and ordinary pressure. The reference remains silent to whether the water contained in the ink is evaporated and the solid matter is redissolved in the ink which is not solidified would be the same as claimed by applicant because similar compositions with similar amounts would inherently have these properties. The ink composition appears to anticipate the claimed invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3, 5, 7 and 10 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The references alone or in combination fail to teach an ink composition comprising a pigment, water and diglycerol wherein the ink is solidified into a solid matter when the water contained in the ink is evaporated, and the solid matter is redissolved in the ink which is not solidified. Therefore the references are not seen to teach or fairly suggest the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Veronica F. Faison whose telephone number is 571-272-1366. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays 8 am to 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on 571-272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1755

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VFF
4-14-05

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anthony J. Green". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

ANTHONY J. GREEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER